



STANFORD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
Department of Genetics

MAR 27 1969

Dear Martin-

A propos your appendices in "Restoring the quality of our environment":

1) What do you know of the chemistry of the products of hygienic chlorination of various waters used for drinking? (You mentioned phenols as a characteristic reactant.) What about other organic contaminants; microbial contaminants themselves? (Could any of these oxidized or chlorinated derivatives be a public health hazard under conditions of chronic intake; have you ever heard of idiosyncratically sensitive individuals)?

2) What are the standards for residual chlorine in tap water? I can often enough smell it, in many cities. What would be the threshold for that.

3) Is anything known of the uptake and body distribution of such levels of hypochlorite?

4) ... or of its effects on essential nutrients?

Sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg

I will be making a parallel search of literature. Please call me if you have anything particularly cogent!

Dr. Martin Alexander
Dept. Soil Science
Cornell Univ.
Ithaca, N.Y.

M. ALEXANDER